

# TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

## Utah Coal Regulatory Program

May 5, 2004

TO: Internal File

FROM: Stephen J. Demczak, Environmental Scientist III/Engineering, Team Lead

RE: Abandonment of Mining Machinery, Canyon Fuel Company, LLC, Skyline Mine, C/007/005, Task ID #1913

### **SUMMARY:**

Skyline mine is requesting to abandon eighty-two longwall shields in Mine #2. These shields have become trapped underground from a recent roof fall in the main haulage way. The location is near 6<sup>th</sup> Left, Panel B. The permittee contends that re-supporting the roof will significantly narrow the main haulage way, making it unsafe to move large shields through the narrow entry.

The permittee contends that no hazardous substances including fluids are within the shields. The fluids were removed prior to their initial storage.

### **TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:**

## OPERATION PLAN

## SPOIL AND WASTE MATERIALS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 701.5, 784.19, 784.25, 817.71, 817.72, 817.73, 817.74, 817.81, 817.83, 817.84, 817.87, 817.89; R645-100-200, -301-210, -301-211, -301-212, -301-412, -301-512, -301-513, -301-514, -301-521, -301-526, -301-528, -301-535, -301-536, -301-542, -301-553, -301-745, -301-746, -301-747.

### **Analysis:**

### **Disposal Of Noncoal Mine Wastes**

The permittee is requesting to leave eighty-two shields underground due to safety concerns. The shields would be considered non-coal waste material (abandoned mining equipment). The chief component of the shields is steel with some rubber hoses. Majority of the fluids have been removed from the shields. The entire coalmine roof support system consist of steel such as roof bolts, trusses, and square sets. These products cannot be removed after mining has been halted. Therefore, the addition of eight-two shields left underground would not be a significant impact with regards to non-coal waste. The hydrologist reviewing this amendment will determine if these longwall shields will impact the hydrologic balance.

### **Findings:**

The permittee has met the minimum requirement of this portion of the engineering section.

## **MAPS, PLANS, AND CROSS SECTIONS OF MINING OPERATIONS**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.23; R645-301-512, -301-521, -301-542, -301-632, -301-731, -302-323.

### **Analysis:**

#### **Mine Workings Maps**

The permittee has submitted Drawing No. 2.3.6-3. This map gives detail where abandoned mining equipment is located underground. On the map, designation 04F is shown to be "Potential". This is to leave the active longwall underground if it cannot be safely retracted. Division has approved this action in a prior amendment.

The map does indicate the caved areas prohibiting the removal of the eight-two shields. This information reaffirms that the shields cannot be retrieved safely.

#### **Certification Requirements**

The permittee has P.E. certified Drawing 2.3.6-3. This is a requirement for mine working maps.

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**Findings:**

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section.

## **RECLAMATION PLAN**

### **GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

Regulatory Reference: PL 95-87 Sec. 515 and 516; 30 CFR Sec. 784.13, 784.14, 784.15, 784.16, 784.17, 784.18, 784.19, 784.20, 784.21, 784.22, 784.23, 784.24, 784.25, 784.26; R645-301-231, -301-233, -301-322, -301-323, -301-331, -301-333, -301-341, -301-342, -301-411, -301-412, -301-422, -301-512, -301-513, -301-521, -301-522, -301-525, -301-526, -301-527, -301-528, -301-529, -301-531, -301-533, -301-534, -301-536, -301-537, -301-542, -301-623, -301-624, -301-625, -301-626, -301-631, -301-632, -301-731, -301-723, -301-724, -301-725, -301-726, -301-728, -301-729, -301-731, -301-732, -301-733, -301-746, -301-764, -301-830.

**Analysis:**

This amendment will not change the reclamation plan.

**Findings:**

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section.

### **BONDING AND INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 800; R645-301-800, et seq.

**Analysis:**

#### **Determination of Bond Amount**

This amendment will not change the bonding amounts.

**Findings:**

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The permittee has met the minimum requirements. The amendment can be approved as submitted.